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CODE

OF



THE BOARD OF HEALTH

OF THE

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

1871.

WASHINGTON, D. C. :

CHRONICLE PUBLISHING COMPANY, 511 NINTH STREET.

1872.

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ROOMS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH,
Washington, D. C., February 17, 1872.

This "Code of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia" has been carefully collated and compared with original records and proceedings of the Board, and is published by authority thereof.

T. S. VERDI,
Secretary of the Board of Health.

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The Board of Health of the District of Columbia, in presenting to the public their regulations, code, and ordinances, regret that a number of important measures are not inserted in consequence of the failure of the Legislature to enact them. The omission was due, it is believed, not so much to indisposition on the part of our lawmakers to subserve the important objects of the Board, as to an inappreciation of the vital importance and urgency of the ordinances proposed.

This is especially true in regard to the law requiring that no interments shall take place without the permission of the Board of Health, the application to be invariably accompanied by the certificate of the physician in attendance upon the deceased, stating the disease, cause of death, and all other circumstances and conditions essential to a proper statistical mortality report.

This measure will, doubtless, be supplied hereafter, when it will be in the power of the Board to publish a weekly statement, representing accurately the vital statistics of the District.

The Board, in the exercise of their various and responsible functions, have usually enjoyed the support and encouragement of our citizens, for which they are duly grateful. It is not to be supposed that duties faithfully enforced, which often conflict with the pecuniary advantage, to say nothing of the personal convenience of the party maintaining a nuisance, will always be received in the most amicable and conciliatory spirit; hence the Board have not been exempt from occasional opposition; but, on the whole, have, perhaps, less cause for complaint in this regard than similar bodies in other localities.

Public hygiene is a subject of growing importance, and is attracting to its consideration the ablest minds of the country. The health of communities cannot be over-estimated, and exigencies occur when considerations of labor and expense are merged in the magnitude of the objects to be attained.

In the discharge of the important duties imposed upon them by the National Congress, the Board, ignoring all personal considerations, are resolved, prudently but fearlessly, to devote themselves to the great work which stands before them. To this end they invoke the coöperation and support of all good citizens.

BOARD OF HEALTH
OF
THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

C. C. COX, M. D., LL.D.

T. S. VERDI, M. D.

JOHN MARBURY, JR.

JOHN M. LANGSTON.

D. W. BLISS, M. D.

OFFICERS

OF THE

BOARD OF HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

C. C. COX, M. D., LL.D., *President and ex officio Sanitary Superintendent.*

T. S. VERDI, M. D. *Secretary and ex officio Health Officer.*

JOHN MARBURY, JR. *Treasurer.*

D. S. JONES *Clerk.*

THOMAS A. MITCHELL *Messenger.*

HON. GEORGE P. FISHER } *Attorneys.*
RICHARD HARRINGTON }

B. FANEUIL CRAIG, M. D. *Chemist.*

BUREAU
OF
SANITARY INSPECTION.

THEO. F. GATCHELL *Sanitary Inspector General.*

Inspectors.

W. H. ORTON.

WILLIAM MUNDER.

A. M. SPRAGUE.

A. L. G. MASON.

O. S. B. WALL.

W. H. CRAIG.

D. V. COLCLAZER.

J. H. SMITH.

M. V. BUCKEY.

C. H. EMERSON.

W. H. FAULKNER.

JAMES W. MILLS.

M. M. WHEELLOCK *Poundmaster.*

WILLIAM WOLF *Remover of Dead Animals.*

STANDING COMMITTEES

OF

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

COMMITTEE OF FINANCE.

JOHN MARBURY, JR. JOHN M. LANGSTON.

COMMITTEE ON ORDINANCES.

JOHN M. LANGSTON. C. C. COX, M. D.

SANITARY COMMITTEE.

T. S. VERDI, M. D. D. W. BLISS, M. D.

SANITARY POLICE COMMITTEE.

D. W. BLISS, M. D. JOHN MARBURY, JR.

COMMITTEE ON EPIDEMICS.

C. C. COX, M. D. T. S. VERDI, M. D.

RULES

OF

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

I. The officers of the Board shall consist of a President, Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be elected biennially, on the first Monday in June, by ballot. There shall also be five standing committees.

II. The President shall be *ex officio* Sanitary Superintendent. He shall preside at all meetings of the Board, sign all official papers emanating from the same, and perform such other duties as usually pertain to the office. He shall have charge of the vital statistics, and shall publish, weekly, a report of the mortality of the District, with a statement of the thermometrical and barometrical conditions existing during such periods. He shall submit the reports of the Sanitary Inspector General whenever ready for the consideration of the Board.

III. The Secretary shall be *ex officio* Health Officer; shall keep, or cause to be kept, a correct and complete record of all acts, doings, and proceedings of the Board, and notify members of all special and extraordinary meetings. He shall sign all orders for interment, cause the orders and recommendations of the Board to be executed, and remove nuisances not otherwise disposed of under the direction of the Board, employing the proper means and the necessary assistance for the accomplishment of such duty. He shall report to the Board the action taken by him in removing nuisances, and also the names of those who resist the execution of the laws or the orders of the Board. He shall also prepare a tabular statement of births and deaths, which shall be reported semi-monthly.

IV. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to receive and disburse under the orders of the Board, and report once a month, or oftener if required, the exact condition of the treasury. He shall keep a regular account of the financial affairs of the Board, and render a complete report of the same whenever called upon. He shall also give bond for the faithful performance of his duties in the sum of \$10,000.

V. There shall also be five standing committees of two members each:

1. A *Committee of Finance*, of which the Treasurer shall be chairman, who shall make out and present, at the annual meeting, an estimate of

the expenses of the ensuing year, shall audit all accounts presented for payment; and no order shall be drawn on the funds of the Board in payment of any claims that have not been previously submitted and favorably reported upon by the Finance Committee.

2. The *Committee on Ordinances* shall consider all proposals to change or alter in any way the existing rules, laws, or regulations, so far as they affect the sanitary interests of the Territory; shall report such rules for the government of the Board as they may deem necessary; shall examine and report upon all forms and blanks that may be ordered by the Board or its committees; shall recommend, from time to time, the publication of such laws, ordinances, and regulations as, in their judgment, the public interest may require, and perform such other duties as the Board may direct.

3. The *Sanitary Committee* shall investigate all causes tending to produce epidemic, communicable, or preventible diseases; shall consider and report upon the best mode of performing the work of day and night scavengers, the water supply, drainage, and paving, so far as they affect the sanitary condition of the Territory, or as may be referred to them by the Board.

4. The *Sanitary Police Committee* shall consider and report upon all applications for appointment as clerks or employés of the Board. They shall also investigate all charges against such clerks and employés, and recommend to the Board such action as they may deem right and necessary.

5. The *Committee on Epidemics*, contagious, and infectious diseases, vaccination, &c., shall collect all the information possible on these subjects, and enforce hygienic rules by which said diseases may be limited in their progress, mitigated, or, if possible, wholly eradicated; also procure reports of vaccination, as hereinafter to be provided for.

VI. There shall be appointed by the Board, at a salary not exceeding \$1,600, a competent person as Clerk to the Board, who shall be in the office of the Board daily from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., and also when the Board is in session, to perform such clerical duties as may be required of him by the President or Secretary of the Board. He shall have entire charge of the rooms in the absence of any member of the Board; shall collect and preserve all books, pamphlets, and periodicals which are or may become the property of the Board.

VII. There shall also be appointed a Messenger, at a salary not to exceed \$900 per annum, whose duty it shall be to prepare the rooms for the sittings of the Board; to be at the same during official hours and whenever the Board is in session. He shall perform all errands and deliver all messages required by the President or any other member of the Board, or, in their absence, called for by the Clerk in the discharge of his duties.

VIII. There shall also be appointed by the Board a Chemist, Attorney, and Counselor, who shall only be compensated for particular services which, from time to time, the Board may require them to perform.

IX. The stated meetings of the Board shall be held on Tuesday and Friday of every week, from the 1st day of October to the 1st of June, and on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday at 7 P. M., from the 1st day of June to the 1st of October.

X. The rooms shall be opened for the transaction of business daily (Sundays excepted) from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M.

XI. The order of business of the Board shall be strictly observed, except when, by unanimous consent, said order shall be suspended.

XII. Every member, when speaking, shall rise and address the Chair, and no talking shall be allowed upon other than the subject under consideration during the sessions of the Board. No member shall speak more than once on the same subject until all who desire to do so have spoken, or oftener than twice on the same subject, except by consent of the Board.

XIII. All orders for the purchase of books, stationery, blanks, furniture, for printing, and all necessary materials for the proper conduct of the Board shall emanate from the Treasurer, by and with the direction of the Board, unless otherwise ordered.

XIV. All reports, resolutions, and motions shall be submitted in writing.

XV. The order of business shall be as follows :

1. Reading of minutes of former meeting.
2. Reports of standing and other committees.
3. Reports of Sanitary Inspector General and Health Officer.
4. Reading of communications.
5. Unfinished business.
6. Miscellaneous business.
7. Adjournment.

XVI. Three members of the Board shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business.

XVII. These rules may be altered or amended by consent of a majority of the Board at any regular meeting.



ORDINANCES

OF

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

AN ORDINANCE to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, That the manufacturing or selling of adulterated medicines; or administering medicines under a false title; or selling poisons for other than artistic or mechanical purposes, without the prescription of a physician; or keeping poisons without a distinct mark of "poison" on the bottle or package; or dispensing medicines without being a qualified pharmacist, shall be deemed to be nuisances injurious to health; and any person or persons who shall manufacture, sell, or put up any medicine or drug fraudulently adulterated; or who shall administer any such medicine or drug under a false or deceptive title or pretext; or shall knowingly ascribe to such article or articles properties of which they are not really possessed; or shall sell any poisonous medicine or substance except upon the prescription of a physician; or shall fail to mark any vial, box, or package containing such poisonous medicine or substance with the word "poison," in large and distinct characters; or shall allow other than a competent pharmacist, who shall either have obtained a diploma from a school of pharmacy, or a certificate from the Columbia Pharmaceutical Association, to prepare, put up, or compound such poisons as the following, viz: Arsenic and its preparations; bichloride, biniodide, and binoxide of mercury; tartarate of antimony and potassa; cyanide of potassium, prussic acid, oil of bitter almonds; chloroform and chloral hydrate; ergot, cotton root, oil of savin, and other powerful emenagogues and ecbolics; opium, nux vomica, veratrum viride, and digitalis and their preparations; lactucarium, euphorbrum, and elaterium; aconitia, ætropaia, codeia, conia, daturia, nicotia, digitaline, strychnia, veratria, and their salts; croton oil, the extracts and tinctures of aonites, belladonna, calabar bean, cannabis indica, conium, and hyosicamus, and all other powerful and poisonous drugs, and who shall continue such act after a notice

duly served upon him or them by an officer of this Board empowered to serve such notice, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That any wells, springs, or waters used for the purpose of drink which have been rendered impure or unwholesome shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; that any person or persons who shall willfully and maliciously render impure or unwholesome any spring, well, or river water used for drinking purposes, by the addition of any defiling or poisonous substance or substances, or in any manner willfully obstruct the ordinary supply of water to the injury or damage of the public health, and who shall continue such act after a notice shall have been duly served upon him or them by an officer of this Board duly empowered to serve such notice, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars.

SEC. 3. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That dead, undressed, and unslaughtered animals shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, if left, kept, rendered, or tried out within one mile of any city or town of the District of Columbia; and that any person who, being the owner or controller of dead, undressed, and unslaughtered hogs, cattle, or other animals, or animal matter, within the District of Columbia, shall fail, within twenty-four hours after the death of said animals, or of their arrival in said locality, to remove the same or bury them beyond the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown; and any person who shall render or try out such dead, undressed, or unslaughtered hogs, cattle, or other animals, or animal matter within one mile of the limits of either of the said cities or towns of the District of Columbia, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and upon conviction thereof shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars; and whenever any person, being the owner or controller of said animal or animal matter, shall fail to remove the same as above, after notice shall have been duly served upon him by an officer of this Board, duly empowered to serve such notice, the proper officer or his deputies shall immediately take possession of the offensive article or articles, and remove the same at the expense of said owner or controller.

SEC. 4. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That unsafe, badly ventilated, badly drained, or damp buildings or dwellings, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person who shall, after the passage of this act, construct, or cause to be constructed, any building for private or public use, which is composed of defective ma-

terials, and marked by bad or careless workmanship to the extent of rendering the same unsafe, or shall neglect the means of proper ventilation, light, drainage, or any other provision essential to the health of the tenant or tenants of such building, or those residing temporarily, or having business therein, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than five hundred dollars : and any person who shall rent or lease any building or part of a building for residence or sleeping purposes, which is known to be deficient in strength or defective in ventilation, light, or sewerage, to an extent likely to prove injurious to health or safety, or shall rent or lease any place for a sleeping apartment or residence not at least one foot above any part of the sidewalk or curbstone of the street adjacent, or which is not dry and free from dampness, and all offensive gases, vapors, or odors prejudicial to health, and who shall fail after having been duly served with notice to discontinue such act, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars.

SEC. 5. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That overcrowded tenement, lodging, or boarding houses, hotels, or manufactories, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health : and any person owning, renting, leasing, or keeping any tenement, lodging, or boarding house, hotel, or manufactory, who shall cause or permit the same to be crowded with a larger number of tenants, guests, or operators than the capacity of the building will properly accommodate, and thus cause detriment or danger to the life or health of the occupants thereof, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars.

SEC. 6. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That any theater or public place not provided with sufficient means of egress and ingress : or obstructing the aisles or passage-ways of such buildings while a collection of people are assembled therein, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health ; and any person or corporation owning, renting, leasing, or keeping any theater or other public hall, who shall allow the same to be so defective in construction or insufficient in the number and capacity of its modes of ingress or egress, or uncleanly, badly ventilated, or in any other condition prejudicial to health, whereby peril may result to any person or persons attending such theater or hall, or shall allow the aisles to be obstructed by chairs or benches, or by persons standing in the aisles, thus preventing a ready egress, in case of fire or other accident, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be

punished by a fine of not less than twenty-five nor more than five hundred dollars.

SEC. 7. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That any house or building where people live or assemble, which is not furnished with a sufficient number of water-closets or privies, shall be deemed a nuisance injurious to health; and any person owning, renting, leasing, or keeping any tenement house, boarding-house, lodging-house, or manufactory, who shall fail to furnish, or to cause to be furnished, for the same a sufficient number of water-closets or privies, properly lighted and ventilated, and free from offensive smells or noxious gases, and who shall fail to furnish such water-closets or privies after notice shall have been duly served upon him, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars.

SEC. 8. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That overheating, overcrowding, insufficiency of food or drink, or want of proper ventilation, light, and drainage in any jail, prison, house of correction, alms-house, or station-house, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and that any person who, in his capacity as the officer in charge of, or having authority in any jail, prison, house of correction, alms-house, or station-house, where any person or persons may be kept or confined, shall, by overheating or overcrowding any apartment or apartments thereof, or by rendering them uncomfortably hot or cold, or by providing insufficient food or drink, or by omitting proper ventilation, light, or drainage, or in other respects neglecting suitable care for, and protection of, the occupants thereof, prejudice the health or endanger the life of such occupants, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred dollars.

SEC. 9. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That filth and dirt left in the streets and gutters of the cities of Washington and Georgetown shall be deemed a nuisance injurious to health; and any person who, contracting to clean or purify any street or streets, shall fail to clean out the gutters and other parts thoroughly, by scraping or otherwise, before water is let in to wash the same, or shall cause the substance that may be scraped away to be washed or carried into the sewer or into any receptacle connected therewith, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than ten dollars.

SEC. 10. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That inadequate and insufficient drain-pipes, soil-pipes, or passages into sewers, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person or persons, whether owner, tenant, board, department, or corporation officer using or possessing any drain-pipe, soil-pipe, passage or connection between any sewer and any ground, building, or place of business, who shall fail to make such drain-pipe, soil-pipe, passage, or connection of adequate and sufficient size to allow the free and entire passage of all that enters, or should enter the same; and who shall fail, after notice duly served upon him, to supply such pipes, of adequate and sufficient size, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than ten dollars.

SEC. 11. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That decayed vegetable or animal matter, filth, or poisonous substance, cast, thrown, or placed into any public reservoir, water-pipe, or stream within the District of Columbia, shall be deemed a nuisance injurious to health; and any person who shall cause or allow any animal, vegetable, or other substance, in a state of decay, to pass into any public reservoir or water-pipe, or into any border or margin thereof, or excavation or stream connected therewith, or shall in any way render water or other liquid used for drinking impure, or allow the same to be done by any person in his employ, and who shall fail, after due notice, to discontinue or remove the same, shall be deemed guilty of perpetrating, keeping, and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty dollars.

SEC. 12. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That hog-pens within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, at a distance of less than one hundred feet from any dwelling house, and filthy hog-pens shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person owning, renting, or leasing any building or property within the city limits of Washington or Georgetown, who shall construct or keep any pen, in which hogs are kept or intended to be kept, at a less distance than one hundred feet from any dwelling or lodging-house, or shall fail to keep such pen clean, by scraping, washing, and using disinfectants, and who shall fail, after notice duly served upon him, to remove the same, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars.

SEC. 13. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That unclean and unwholesome stables, sheds, or pens, or places where animals are kept, and any animals affected by glanders or any other contagious diseases shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person keeping or

conducting any stable, shed, or place in which cows, horses, mules, hogs, or other animals are kept, who shall allow such stable, shed, or place to be in an unclean and unwholesome condition; or who shall fail to employ in such stable, shed, or place, at least once a week, proper disinfectants; or shall allow any animal affected by glanders, or other contagious or pestilential disease to remain in such stable, shed, or place, without an express permit from the Board of Health, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than two nor more than fifteen dollars.

SEC. 14. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That slaughter-houses, rooms, buildings, or places where cattle, sheep, hogs, or other animals are slaughtered, being kept in a filthy or unwholesome condition, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person owning, renting, leasing, or occupying any yard, room, building, or other place where cattle, sheep, hogs, or other animals are slaughtered or dressed, who shall allow such yard, room, building, or other place to be in a filthy and unwholesome condition, or who shall fail at least once in twenty-four hours to thoroughly cleanse and purify the same, and to use suitable disinfectants at least twice a week, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty dollars.

SEC. 15. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That slaughtering or dressing any cattle or other animal in any street, alley, avenue, or place within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, shall be deemed a nuisance injurious to health. And any person who shall slaughter or dress, or cause to be slaughtered and dressed, any cattle or other animal, or any part thereof, in any street, avenue, sidewalk, alley, or place within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, shall be deemed guilty of perpetrating, keeping, and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred dollars.

SEC. 16. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That unclean or filthy sidewalks, gutters, or premises shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person owning, renting, leasing, or occupying any house or building, who shall allow the same, or the sidewalks, gutters, or premises thereof, to be and remain in a filthy condition, and who shall fail, after due notice from this Board, to clean or cause the same to be cleaned, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars.

SEC. 17. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That unmuzzled dogs going upon any street, avenue, or other public place between the fifteenth day of June and the fifteenth day of September, in any year, mad dogs, and dogs bitten by hydrophobic dogs, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person owning or keeping any dog, who shall allow the same to go unmuzzled upon any street, alley, or other public place between the fifteenth day of June and the fifteenth day of September, in any year; or who shall refuse to kill or to cause to be killed any such dog, owned or kept by them, which has gone mad or given symptoms of hydrophobia; or who shall omit to confine any such animal exposed to such disease, or which has been bitten by a hydrophobic dog or animal, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than twenty-five dollars; and any dog going at large between the fifteenth day of June and the fifteenth day of September, in any year, without a proper muzzle, [* shall be taken up by the poundmaster, who shall charge the owner of the same one dollar for its redemption; and every such dog not redeemed within twenty-four hours, after having been taken up, as aforesaid, shall be liable to be shot by said poundmaster.]

SEC. 18. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That all establishments or places of business for tanning, skinning, scouring, or dressing hides or leather, within the District of Columbia, not kept clean and free from any deleterious odors, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person who shall hereafter, in said District, open or conduct any establishment or place of business for tanning, skinning, scouring, or dressing hides or leather, and who shall fail to keep such establishment or place of business free from deleterious odors, cleanly, and wholesome, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars.

SEC. 19. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That all establishments or places of business for boiling any offal, swill, bones, fat, or tallow, crushing, grinding, or burning bones or shells, cleansing guts, making glue, varnish, or lampblack, distilling liquors or alcohol, or other substance that may degenerate into noxious gases and odors, within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person who shall, within the limits of said cities, boil any offal, swill, bones, fat, tallow, or lard, for any purpose except that of cooking, or who shall enter

*Passed July 5, 1871, as amendment to section 17 of an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof."

into the business of crushing, grinding, or burning bones or shells, or cleansing guts, or making glue from any dead animal or part thereof, or storing or keeping any scrap, fat, or grease, or any offensive animal matter, or shall hereafter establish any manufactory or place of business for boiling any varnish or oil, or for the distilling of any ardent, alcoholic, or fermented spirits, or for making any lampblack, turpentine, or tar, or for conducting any other business that may generate any unwholesome, offensive, and deleterious gas, smoke, deposit, or exhalations, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than two nor more than twenty dollars.

SEC. 20. *And be it further ordained and enacted.* That rubbish, the contents of cess-pools, oyster-shells, shavings, offal, hair, feathers, ashes, garbage, foul water, dye water, or offal from soap, candle, or other manufactories, filth, stable manure, or any other offensive material cast, placed, or laid in any street, avenue, public reservation, alley, or open lot in Washington and Georgetown, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person who shall cast, place, or lay the same in any street, avenue, public reservation, or open lot, as aforesaid, or so that the same may run or fly into said places, and shall not remove the same within the day on which the same shall have been placed, as aforesaid, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than one nor more than five dollars, and shall, in addition, pay the cost of removal, if the same shall be removed by authority of this Board.

SEC. 21. *And be it further ordained and enacted.* That animal or vegetable substances, filth gathered in cleaning yards or streets, or waste of mills and factories, placed upon any grounds or lots for the purpose of filling, leveling, or raising the surface of the same, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person who shall fill up or raise the surface of, or level, any lot, grounds, dock, wharf or pier, or any ground to be used for building purposes, with any animal or vegetable substance, or filth gathered in cleaning yards or streets, buildings, or docks, or waste of mills or factories; and any person who shall open or turn up, or remove the surface of any ground or place filled with offensive matter or substance, or matter which will emit any deleterious smell or exhalation, within the built-up portion of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, between the first day of May and the first day of October of any year, without a special permit from this Board, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than two nor more than twenty dollars.

SEC. 22. *And be it further ordained and enacted.* That manure accumu-

lated in great quantity; manure, offal, or garbage piled or deposited within three hundred feet of any place of worship or of any dwelling, or unloaded along the line of any railroad, or in any street or public way; or cars or flats loaded with manure, or other offensive matter, remaining or standing on any railroad, street, or highway, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person who shall pile or deposit manure, offal, or garbage, or any offensive or nauseous substance within three hundred feet of any inhabited dwelling within the limit of said cities; and any person who shall unload, discharge, or put upon or along the line of any railroad, street, or highway, or public place within said cities, any manure, garbage, offal, or other offensive or nauseous substance, within three hundred feet of any inhabited dwelling; or who shall cause or allow cars or flats loaded with, or having in or upon them any such substance, to remain or stand on or along any railroad, street, or highway within the limits of said cities, within three hundred feet of any inhabited dwelling, and who shall fail, after notice duly served by this Board, to remove the same, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 23. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That offensive or obstructed water-closets, vaults, privies, tubs, or vats, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person being the owner, agent, or occupant of any lot or piece of land, within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and any person having the charge or control of such lot or land, whereon is situated any water-closet, vault, rain-tub, or vat, which has become obstructed and offensive, and who shall not cause the same to be cleansed, made free from such obstruction, and properly repaired, after due notice, served upon him by this Board, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and, upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars.

SEC. 24. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That all privies constructed of insufficient materials, or in unsuitable and improper places, or in an insufficient and inadequate manner, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and any person owning, renting, leasing, or occupying any lot or piece of ground within the limits of the cities of Washington or Georgetown who shall construct or cause to be constructed, or allow to be constructed thereon, any privy of other material than brick, cement, or wood; or shall so construct any privy which is not provided with a sufficient box, bucket, or vessel for the reception of filth, and the inside of which is not at least two feet distant from the line of any adjoining lot, (unless the owner of said ad-

joining lot may otherwise agree and consent,) or at a like distance from any street, lane, alley, camp, square, or public place, or public or private passage-way, and any person who shall so construct, or cause to be constructed, any privy that it cannot be conveniently approached and cleaned, or in such manner that each and every vault, box, bucket, or vessel thereof is not made tight and close, so that the contents thereof cannot escape therefrom, except as may be permitted by means of a passage-way or conduit under ground, for the purpose of carrying away the contents of such vault, box, or vessel into any common sewer or drain; and shall not, after due notice, remedy the same, shall be deemed guilty of keeping and maintaining a nuisance, and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than two dollars for each and every week during which he may permit such nuisance to continue.

Passed May 15, 1871.

* SEC. 25. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That all lots of ground within the cities of Washington and Georgetown upon which may be pools of stagnant water, or any marshy land caused by defective drainage or otherwise, shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health; and if any person or persons owning, occupying, renting, or controlling such land, whether as owner, tenant, or agent, shall, after due notice from the Health Officer of this Board, neglect or refuse to abate the nuisance, it shall be the duty of the proper officer of this Board to remove, or cause to be removed and abated, the said nuisance, and to assess the cost thereof upon the lot or lots upon which said nuisance exists.

† SEC. 26. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Health Officer appointed by this Board, upon receiving information or obtaining knowledge of the existence of anything or things herein declared to be nuisances, or anything or things which may hereafter be declared to be nuisances by any ordinance enacted by this Board, to notify the person or persons committing, creating, keeping, or maintaining the same, to remove, or cause to be removed, the same within twenty-four hours after such notice be duly given; and if the same be not removed by such person or persons within twenty-four hours after notice shall have been duly served, as aforesaid, it shall be the duty of the Health Officer aforesaid to remove, or cause to be re-

* Passed August 26, 1871, as an additional section, to be entitled section 25 of an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof."

† Passed May 24, 1871, as an additional section, to be entitled section 26 of an ordinance entitled "An ordinance to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof."

moved, such nuisance or nuisances; and all costs and expenses of such removal shall be paid by the persons committing, creating, keeping, or maintaining such nuisance or nuisances; and if the said costs and expenses thus accruing shall not be paid within ten days after such removal by said Health Officer, the same shall be collected from the person or persons committing, creating, keeping, or maintaining such nuisances, by suit at law.

AN ORDINANCE *to prevent domestic animals from running at large within the cities of Washington and Georgetown.*

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, That on and after the fifteenth day of June, A. D. eighteen hundred and seventy-one, domestic animals shall not be permitted to run at large within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown.

SEC. 2. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That there shall be established, at a convenient place within the city of Washington, a public pound, to be under the charge of an officer duly appointed by this Board, and who shall be designated a poundmaster; and that there shall be established, at a convenient place within the city of Georgetown, a public pound, to be under the charge of a poundmaster appointed as above; and that all domestic animals found running at large within the limits of the cities of Washington and Georgetown shall be taken up and impounded in the pounds located in said cities respectively.

SEC. 3. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That each and every such animal taken up and impounded, as aforesaid, shall, within twenty-four hours after such impounding, if not claimed, and the charges for taking up, impounding, and keeping the same paid, be advertised; and if not claimed within five days thereafter, shall be sold at public auction.

SEC. 4. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That the proceeds of such sales, after deducting charges and expenses of taking up and impounding such animals, shall be paid over to the Treasurer of the Board, who shall give duplicate receipts therefor, one copy of the same to be retained by the officer selling such animals, and the other copy to be by said officer filed with the Secretary of this Board; and it shall be the duty of said Treasurer to keep an accurate account of all money received by him under the provisions of this ordinance, and to report the same from time to time, as required, to this Board.

SEC. 5. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That all moneys received by said Treasurer from the sale of animals, as aforesaid, shall, if demanded by the owner of such animals, at any time within one year from the sale thereof, upon satisfactory proof that such claimant was the owner of such animal sold, as aforesaid, after due allowance by said claimant of charges and expenses, as hereinafter specified, of taking up and impounding and keeping such animal, be paid to said claimant; otherwise said moneys shall be used by this Board for sanitary purposes within, and for the benefit of, the District of Columbia.

SEC. 6. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That the charges for taking up and impounding domestic animals found running at large within the cities of Washington and Georgetown shall be as follows, to wit: For each horse, mule, bull, steer, cow, calf, heifer, two dollars; and for each sheep, goat, hog, one dollar; and for each goose, fifty cents; and, in addition to said several sums, the charges for keeping said animals shall be merely the reasonable and necessary expense thereof.

SEC. 7. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That no person or persons shall break open, or in any manner, directly or indirectly, aid or assist in breaking open any public pound herein provided for, or take or let any animal out of such pound without the consent of the officer keeping the same; nor shall any person or persons hinder, delay, or obstruct any person or persons engaged in driving or carrying to any such public pound any animal or animals liable to be taken up and impounded under the provisions of this ordinance, and any person violating the provisions of this section shall be punished, upon conviction thereof, by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such violation.

SEC. 8. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That it shall be the duty of said poundmasters, respectively, to keep safely and carefully all property pertaining to said pounds, and all animals put therein, and to report, from time to time, as required, to this Board the condition of said pounds, and what repairs, if any, are needed; and the number and description of the animals therein impounded; and what disposition has been made of the same; and to report to said Board all moneys received by them under the provisions of the ordinance, and the amounts paid over to the Treasurer of this Board, and the amounts remaining in their hands, as hereinafter provided; and it shall be the further duty of said poundmasters to pay over, weekly, all moneys received, as aforesaid, to the Treasurer, taking his duplicate receipt therefor, filing one copy of the same with the Secretary of this Board, and retaining the other copy as the voucher for such payment; and said poundmasters shall give good and sufficient bond for the proper discharge of their several duties, as herein before provided.

SEC. 9. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That this ordinance shall be in force on and after the fifteenth day of June, A. D. eighteen hundred and seventy-one.

Passed May 15, 1871.

AN ORDINANCE to prevent the sale of unwholesome food in the cities of
Washington and Georgetown.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, That no person shall knowingly sell, or cause to be sold, any impure, diseased, decayed, or unwholesome provisions, nor shall any person fraudulently adulterate, for the purpose of sale, any bread or other material intended to be used for food with any substance of a poisonous character, or any substance injurious to health; and any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than fifty dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 2. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That no person shall manufacture, prepare, or sell any liquor used for drink, whether malt, vinous, or ardent, or the milk of cows or goats, intended to be used as food or drink, which has been adulterated with any poisonous or deleterious ingredient; and any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than fifty nor more five hundred dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 3. *And be further ordained and enacted*, That no person shall convey into the cities of Washington and Georgetown, or offer for sale in any part of said cities, any animal or part of animal that may be sickly, diseased, or unwholesome, or which may have died from disease or accident, or any fish or vegetables not fresh, sound, and fit for food; and any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 4. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That no person shall slaughter any cattle within the District of Columbia for the purpose of sale as food, when such cattle are in a feverish or diseased condition; and any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 5. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That no person, whether owner, manager, or keeper of, or agent, or bar-tender, or clerk in any saloon, restaurant, boarding-house, or eating-house, shall offer for sale as food or drink anything poisonous or unwholesome, and any person

violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction thereof, be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 6. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That no person owning, renting, or leasing, or occupying any stall, room, or stand where meats or vegetables are sold for food, shall fail to keep said stall, room, or stand in a clean or wholesome condition, nor shall such person allow any portion of said meats or vegetables to become poisoned or infected, or unfit for food; and any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than ten nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 7. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That no person shall offer for sale, or keep for such purpose, any unwholesome, watered, or adulterated milk, or swill-milk, or milk from cows kept up and fed on garbage swill or other deleterious substance; nor shall any person make for sale any butter or cheese from such unwholesome milk; and any person violating the provisions of this section shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than twenty dollars for each and every such offense.

Passed May 15, 1871.

AN ORDINANCE *to prevent the sale of unsound, blown, or unwholesome meat or other articles of food within the cities of Washington and Georgetown.*

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, That on and after the passage of this ordinance it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to sell or expose for sale, within the cities of Washington and Georgetown, any unsound, blown, or unwholesome meat or other article of food, under a penalty of not less than five nor more than twenty-five dollars for each and every such offense.

Passed January 9, 1872.

AN ORDINANCE *in relation to fecal matter in privies in the District of Columbia, and providing for the removal thereof.*

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, That fecal matter not thoroughly deodorized and disinfected, remaining in privies in the District of Columbia, is hereby declared to be a nuisance injurious to health.

SEC. 2. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That all fecal matter

in privies in the cities of Washington and Georgetown shall be deodorized and disinfected previous to its removal by the use of the agent known as "the patent dry-earth deodorizer and disinfectant," or by such other agent as may hereafter be designated by this Board, in such manner that no fœtid odor shall arise therefrom.

SEC. 3. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the scavengers to clean all privies within their respective districts whenever required by this Board, or upon the written application of the owner, occupant, or lessee of the premises whereon such privy may be located.

SEC. 4. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the owner or occupant of any premises whereon such privy or privies are located, to keep the contents of the same thoroughly disinfected by the use of the deodorizer specified in section two of this ordinance, which shall be furnished to said owners or occupants, free of charge, by the authorized agents of this Board; and any person neglecting so to do shall be punished by a fine of not less than five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 5. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons, other than such as shall be authorized by this Board, to clean any privy in the cities of Washington and Georgetown for hire; or for any person to employ any other than a regular appointee of this Board for such purpose; and any person so offending shall be punished by a fine of ten dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 6. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That the Board of Health shall, upon the receipt of complaint, in writing, cause any privy to be inspected, and, if necessary, cleaned by the persons authorized for said purpose; and any person owning or occupying premises on which any privy is situated, who shall refuse to permit the same to be inspected and cleaned at the times designated by this Board, or whenever necessary, shall be punished by a fine of five dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 7. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to remove the contents of any privy without having deodorized and disinfected said contents previous to said removal, as provided for and required in section four of this ordinance; and any person or persons so doing shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than ten dollars.

SEC. 8. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be lawful for the person or persons appointed for the purpose to remove the contents of any privy during the day, or at such time as the owner thereof may desire, said contents having first been perfectly deodorized and disinfected, as hereinbefore provided.

SEC. 9. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That it shall be unlawful for any person or persons to deposit the contents of any privy or privies in any place other than such as may be approved by this Board; and any person so offending shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than fifty dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 10. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That all fecal matter deodorized and disinfected and removed from privies, under the provisions of this ordinance, shall be delivered to such contractor or contractors for supplying the deodorizing agent, hereinbefore required to be used, as may be designated by this Board.

SEC. 11. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That any person or persons contracting with this Board for the reception of the fecal matter above referred to, and the supply of the deodorizing agent designated, shall be required to give bond in the penal sum of five thousand dollars for the faithful performance of their contract; and said person or persons contracting, as aforesaid, shall post or cause to be posted, in each privy, at his or their own cost, and without expense to the owner of said privy, a printed copy of this ordinance, together with instructions for the use of the deodorizer and disinfectant herein specified.

Passed August 10, 1871.

AN ORDINANCE *declaring offensive and deleterious dust arising from crushing or breaking stone, within the cities of Washington and Georgetown, a nuisance injurious to health.*

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia, That the crushing or breaking of stone, within the cities of Washington and Georgetown, by machine or otherwise, in such manner as to create offensive and deleterious dust, is hereby declared to be a nuisance injurious to health.

SEC. 2. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That if any person or persons committing, creating, keeping, or maintaining such nuisance, as aforesaid, after notice duly served upon him or them to remove or abate the same, shall refuse or neglect so to do, it is hereby made the duty of the Health Officer of this Board to remove or cause to be removed said nuisance according to law.

SEC. 3. *And be it further ordained and enacted*, That this ordinance shall be in force from and after its passage.

Passed November 1, 1871.

AN ORDINANCE to further define and regulate the duties of the poundmaster or poundmasters of the cities of Washington and Georgetown.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia. That from and after the passage of this ordinance the poundmaster or poundmasters appointed by this Board shall keep a register of all animals taken up by him or them, with an accurate description of the same, which shall at all times be open to the inspection of the public; and the said poundmaster or poundmasters are hereby forbidden to deliver any animal taken up and impounded to any person applying for the same, unless such person shall present good and sufficient evidence of his ownership or right to the possession of said animal; and no sale of any animal or animals impounded, as aforesaid, shall be made until due public notice of such sale shall have been given, together with a description of the animal or animals to be sold, for at least one week prior to said sale.

Passed December 5, 1871.

AN ORDINANCE to establish a Bureau of Sanitary Inspection, for the abatement of nuisances injurious to health, and to prevent the sale of unwholesome food within the District of Columbia.

Be it ordained and enacted by the Board of Health of the District of Columbia. That there shall be established a Bureau of Sanitary Inspection, to consist of one Sanitary Inspector General and twelve inspectors; said inspectors shall be assigned to the several duties of inspection of streets, of food, of live stock, of fish and other marine products, or detailed for the performance of such other duties as may be necessary, by the Sanitary Inspector General, under direction of this Board.

SEC. 2. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the Sanitary Inspector General to inspect, at least once a week, the entire District; to superintend the work of the inspectors and see that they perform their duties; to keep a correct record of all inspections, and the official acts of inspectors, and to report the same every week to the Board of Health. Said Inspector General shall have power to abate, or cause to be abated, all nuisances requiring immediate action, under the immediate supervision of the Health Officer; shall instruct the garbage-masters as to their duties; shall receive and entertain all complaints against scavengers and garbage-masters, and shall report to the Board, without delay, any violation of the provisions of the ordinances of this Board which may be brought to his notice; and shall perform such other duties as may be imposed upon him from time to time by this Board.

SEC. 3. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of each inspector of streets to visit every part of his district daily, and carefully inspect all streets, alleys, yards, and enclosures, unsafe houses, horse and cow stables, privies, slaughter-houses, wharves, and every other place where offensive or deleterious matter may exist, and to report promptly to the Sanitary Inspector General any and all nuisances injurious to health. Each inspector of streets shall cause to be kept, in some central locality in his district, a book for complaints, in which the citizens of the District may enter complaints in regard to nuisances; and it shall be the duty of the inspector to examine such book each night, take a memorandum of the date and nature of the complaint, and include the same in his report to the Sanitary Inspector General; and the inspectors of streets shall perform such further duties and special inspections as may be directed by the Sanitary Inspector General.

SEC. 4. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of each inspector of food to attend the market or markets within his inspection district every morning, at the time when sales commence, and carefully inspect all meats, fowl, game, and vegetables offered for sale, and condemn and seize such as may be diseased, or from any other cause rendered unfit for food. He shall also visit, as early as practicable each day, every green grocery or other place within his district where articles of food are kept for sale, and perform his duty of inspection, condemnation, and seizure, as hereinbefore prescribed. He shall report his official proceedings daily to the Sanitary Inspector General, and in the performance of his duties shall be under the direction of that officer; and the inspectors of food shall perform such other duties and special inspections as may be directed by the Sanitary Inspector General.

SEC. 5. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the inspector of live stock to carefully inspect all cattle, hogs, sheep, or other animals intended to be killed and sold for consumption as food in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and to condemn all such as may be diseased, or from any other cause rendered unfit for food; and it is hereby made the duty of said inspector to brand with the letter "C" all cattle, hogs, sheep, or other animals condemned as aforesaid.

SEC. 6. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the inspector of fish and other marine products to examine and inspect all fish, oysters, clams, lobsters, and other marine products, landing by boat, arriving by rail, or otherwise brought by any person or persons into the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and if, upon such inspection, said inspector shall find any of the said marine pro-

ducts to be in an unsound, diseased, or unwholesome condition, it shall be his duty to prohibit their sale ; and the said inspector of fish is hereby authorized, empowered, and directed to seize and destroy any unsound, diseased, or unwholesome fish, oysters, clams, lobsters, crabs, or other marine products, which may be offered for sale as food within the cities of Washington and Georgetown.

SEC. 7. *And be it further ordained and enacted.* That in the performance of the duties herein prescribed the inspector of fish shall be, and is hereby, authorized and empowered to board all boats, vessels, steamboats, and cars, and to stop all vehicles believed by him to contain fish and other marine products, for the purpose of enforcing the provisions of this ordinance.

SEC. 8. *And be it further ordained and enacted,* That any person or persons who shall molest, hinder, or in any manner prevent said Sanitary Inspector General, or any inspector appointed by this Board, from performing any duty imposed upon him or them by the provisions of this ordinance, shall be punished by a fine of not less than twenty nor more than one hundred dollars for each and every such offense.

Passed September 12, 1871.

3 B H

A C T
OF
CONGRESS ESTABLISHING BOARD OF HEALTH.

Section 26 of an act of Congress approved February 21, 1871, entitled "An act to provide a government for the District of Columbia."]

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SEC. 26. *And be it further enacted*, That there shall be appointed by the President of the United States, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a Board of Health for said District, to consist of five persons, whose duty it shall be to declare what shall be deemed nuisances injurious to health, and to provide for the removal thereof; to make and enforce regulations to prevent domestic animals from running at large in the cities of Washington and Georgetown; to prevent the sale of unwholesome food in said cities; and to perform such other duties as shall be imposed upon said Board by the Legislative Assembly.

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Approved February 21, 1871.

ACTS OF THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

AFFECTING

THE BOARD OF HEALTH.

CHAP. XLVIII.—AN ACT *in relation to reports of births within the District of Columbia.*

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia. That it shall be the duty of every physician, accoucheur, or midwife, who shall attend at the birth of any infant within the District of Columbia, to forward a report to the Board of Health of said District within six days after such birth, stating distinctly the date of birth, the sex and color of the child thus born, its physical condition, whether still born or not, and the name and nativity of the parents of such child; and any such physician, accoucheur, or midwife, who shall fail to report as herein required, shall be punished by a fine of not less than five nor more than ten dollars for each and every such offense.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That all fines imposed under the provisions of this act shall be for the use of the District of Columbia.

Approved August 18, 1871.

CHAP. LIX.—AN ACT *in relation to draining certain lots, and for other purposes.*

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia. That any person or persons owning any lot or lots bordering on a public or private sewer, will henceforth be required to drain such lot or lots into the sewer bordering thereon, and also drain all slops and water closets into such sewer whenever the Board of Health shall decide upon the necessity for so doing.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted,* That if any person or persons owning such lot or lots shall neglect or refuse to comply with the requirements of the first section of this act within thirty days after a written notice has been served upon him or them by a member of the Sanitary Metropolitan Police, under authority or instruction from the Board of Health, or if such lot or lots be vacant, and no owner or agent can be

found within the District after a written notice has been posted upon the lot or lots for the period aforesaid by a member of said Sanitary Police, then the Board of Health shall cause the said premises to be properly drained to the satisfaction of the Board of Public Works, and the cost thereof, including the proportionate cost of such private sewer as may be thus made, shall be chargeable to the property and be a lien thereon, to be collected in the same manner as other special taxes on real estate are collected.

SEC. 3. *And be it further enacted*, That where it has been found necessary to drain into a private sewer, the party owning or constructing such private sewer shall be entitled to such remuneration as may be deemed just by the Board of Public Works, and the premises drained shall be assessed for such remuneration, which shall be collected as provided for in section two.

SEC. 4. *And be it further enacted*, That all acts or parts of acts inconsistent with this act be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Approved August 21, 1871.

CHAP. LXXVII.—AN ACT *making appropriations for defraying the expenses of the Board of Health.*

Be it enacted by the Legislative Assembly of the District of Columbia, That the following sums, needed for defraying the expenses of the Board of Health of the District of Columbia for the current year, commencing first of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-one, and ending first of June, eighteen hundred and seventy-two, be, and the same are hereby, appropriated, namely: For fuel and lights, three hundred dollars; for furniture and repairs, one thousand dollars; for books, stationery, postage, advertising, and printing blanks, one thousand dollars; for sanitary work in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, and throughout the District of Columbia, including the abatement of all nuisances injurious to health, the removal of dead animals, the prevention of the sale of unwholesome food, the employment of necessary agents, and contingent expenses of the Board, twenty-five thousand dollars; for disinfectants, two thousand dollars: *Provided*, That the money hereby appropriated shall be paid out but by the Treasurer of the District of Columbia, upon warrants drawn by the Governor and Comptroller of said District: *And provided further*, That none of said money shall be drawn or paid until after the work has been performed and the material furnished for which such money shall be paid: *And provided further*, That no money appropriated by this act for any specific purpose shall be drawn or paid out for any other purpose what-

ever; for vaccine matter, two hundred dollars; for quarantine expenses, including the means to be employed for the prevention of the introduction and spread of contagious and infectious and epidemic diseases, one thousand dollars; for payment of salary of clerk, one thousand six hundred dollars; and for payment of salary of messenger, nine hundred dollars.

SEC. 2. *And be it further enacted*, That all officers or agents of the Board shall be appointed by said Board, subject to the approval of the Governor.

Approved August 23, 1871.

CHAP. CVIII.—AN ACT *prescribing the duties of certain officers for the District of Columbia, and fixing their compensation.*

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SEC. 13. *And be it further enacted*, That it shall be the duty of the Coroner to hold an inquest over any person found dead in the District of Columbia, when the manner and cause of death shall not be already known as accidental, or in the course of nature. No coroner's jury shall receive any fee or compensation for services as such, and said Coroner is hereby authorized and empowered to issue his certificates to the Auditor for the payment of such expenses as may be necessary for the interment of any person over whom he has held an inquest, and whose body is not claimed by friends or relatives: *Provided*, That the amount of such expenses shall not exceed the sum of ten dollars. He shall make a monthly report to the Board of Health of the number of inquests held by him during the month last past before said report, with a full description, as far as may be, of the age and sex of persons, color and nationality, the cause and mode of their death, and such other particulars as may be necessary to their identification, in case of strangers and unknown persons. He shall also, immediately after holding any inquest, deposit in some bank in the city of Washington, subject to the order of the Governor, all moneys, all other property, and all other effects, with the property clerk of the Police Department, which shall be found upon the person of those over whom he shall hold inquest, as hereinbefore provided. He shall receive a salary of two thousand dollars per annum, and give bond, to be approved by the Governor, in the sum of five thousand dollars, conditioned for the faithful performance of his duties.

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Approved August 23, 1871.

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District of Columbia,

BOARD OF HEALTH,

Washington, February 26, 1872.

Resolved by the Board of Health, That a circular be addressed to the physicians and undertakers of the District, requesting that they will promptly send to the Board the usual Mortuary Certificates as soon as possible after the occurrence of the death, in order that no delay may occur in preparing the monthly reports of the Board.

Passed February 16, 1872.

Referring to the above resolution, the Board of Health would respectfully announce that it is their purpose to publish a Condensed Statement of Mortality, showing the number of deaths actually occurring each month, with an enumeration of the more prominent causes, accompanied by the daily meteorological observations for the same period. To this end they earnestly invoke the coöperation and support of the physicians and undertakers of the District.

CHRIS. C. COX, M. D.,

President Board of Health.

